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AMAZON REGION MINISTERS TO MEET IN COLOMBIA

PA232247 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Bogota -- Eight foreign ministers of the Amazon region will meet in Cali from 6 to 8 December to establish the basic guidelines for a common policy and to evaluate the general development of the process of cooperation in the Amazon region. This will be the second time that the foreign ministers of Brazil, Peru, Venezuela, Ecuador, Bolivia, Guyana, Suriname, and Colombia have met as the supreme body of the treaty signed in Brasilia in June 1978. They will consider an agenda dealing with the progress of the region, which encompasses approximately 7 million square km.

In addition to evaluating the development of the Amazon cooperation process, the foreign ministers will study institutional and financial aspects, regional development, scientific and technical cooperation, and the approval of an action plan to carry out the approved plans and projects. The work of this second meeting of foreign ministers will be divided into three commissions.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified official] It will be the second meeting at the ministerial level. It will be held in Cali and attended by all countries that have access to the Amazon basin. This is part of a program that has been carried out in recent years. The foreign ministers will discuss the physical development, that is, the interconnection of the basin from various viewpoints, as well as scientific and research aspects and institutional aspects in the sense of seeking coordination for the development of the Amazon basin. This is a necessary activity with an eye to the future. Brazil, Colombia, Peru, Bolivia, and all the countries that in some way are linked to the basin are giving much attention to the meeting. The basin is South America's great natural reserve. I think it will be a very important meeting to promote this initiative.

[Unidentified reporter] What countries will participate?

[Official] All the countries of the basin will participate. This includes Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, and Colombia, as well as Venezuela, Guyana, and Suriname, which have a small participation in the Amazon from the hydrographic viewpoint. Brazil will naturally attend since it has the largest geographic area in the Amazon region. It is quite an important meeting. [end recording]

OFFICIALS TO MEET FOR BOLIVAR BICENTENNIAL

PA231542 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0833 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Bogota, 23 Nov (LATIN-REUTER) -- The presidents of Venezuela, Ecuador, Bolivia, Panama, Colombia, and the Peruvian prime minister will meet in Colombia on 17 and 18 December for final ceremonies commemorating the bicentennial of the birth of Liberator Simon Bolivar.

Spokesmen for the Narino Presidential Palace told REUTER that a firm program has not yet been arranged. The topics of the talks among the heads of state and government at this minisummit of Bolivarian countries were not disclosed, although the spokesmen indicated that they may include the Central American situation and factors related to the progress of the Andean subregional economic group.

There will be three different sites for the minisummit. First, the heads of state will meet in Santa Marta on the Caribbean coast where Bolivar died on 17 December 1830. They will then go to Cartagena, in the same region; this Colombian city celebrated its 450th anniversary in June. The final phase of the meeting will be on 18 December at the Boyaca Bridge, 120 km north of Bogota, where on 7 August 1819, troops led by Bolivar defeated the Spanish Army and gained Colombia's independence.

To Sign Peace Document

PA242107 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 21 Nov 83 p 6 A

[By Guillermo Perez]

[Excerpts] An intense program of activities will be carried out by the Bolivarian presidents during their 24-hour visit to Colombia between 17 and 18 December to pay tribute to Liberator Simon Bolivar.

The program is scheduled to start on 17 December -- the date of the 153d anniversary of the death of the Liberator -- when Presidents Hernan Siles Zuazo of Bolivia and Belisario Betancur of Colombia will travel from Bogota to Santa Marta.

The Colombian chief of state will wait at Simon Bolivar Airport to greet his colleagues from Panama, Ecuador, and Venezuela -- Ricardo de la Espriella, Oswaldo Hurtado, and Luis Herrera Campins -- as well as Peruvian Prime Minister Fernando Schwalb, all of whom will later proceed to the San Pedro Alejandrino villa, where they will sign a document on integration and peace.

President Siles Zuazo will remain in Bogota until 23 December, where he will undergo eye surgery at the Barraquer Clinic.

The agreement with the EEC to be signed by the Andean member nations is of great importance to the economic future of the area, which has had trouble placing its products in Europe and which, due to the high external debt, is facing difficulties regarding international reserves.

FINDINGS OF RATTENBACH REPORT REVEALED

FY231424 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0130 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Nov (DYN) -- Former Army Commander Leopoldo Galtieri and former Navy Commander Jorge Anaya could receive death sentences if the Armed Forces should decide to apply the maximum penalty established in the Military Justice Code for the crimes they were accused of by the Inter-Force Commission, which analyzed responsibilities in the conduct of the Malvinas war.

On the other hand, the former Air Force commander, Brigadier Basilio Lami Dozo, could only be sanctioned with dismissal and a "lengthy prison term." Eleven other high-ranking officers of the three branches are also charged with various crimes. Former Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez and two lower ranking officers initially will be turned over to inquests.

The three former members of the military junta are additionally charged with violating Article 45 of the Constitution, related to neglect of duty on the part of public servants. The former foreign minister is also charged with this offense.

The most important points of the Rattenbach commission findings were published tonight in 25 pages of the weekly SIETE DIAS.

Maximum penalty under the terms of Article 750 of the Military Justice Code providing for a death sentence or indefinite imprisonment was also recommended for Colonel Juan Ramon Mabragana, who commanded one of the units in the Malvinas military garrison.

The summarized report published in SIETE DIAS recounts at length the conditions prior to the occupation of the archipelago by the Argentine forces on 2 April 1982, and it charges the former members of the military junta, as well as former Foreign Minister Costa Mendez, with serious negligence.

In fact, among its main points, the Rattenbach report recounts that late in the evening of 1 April, then Secretary of State Alexander Haig "had called in the Argentine ambassador to Washington, Esteban Takacs, to inform him that the State Department knew that the invasion was under way, and asked that the operation be called off, because it would trigger a conflict between two countries, both friends of the United States. Haig offered his good offices as mediator and warned ambassador Takacs that, if a war finally broke out, the United States could not remain neutral and necessarily had to support Great Britain."

The report adds that "Ambassador Takas conveyed all the information immediately to Costa Mendez personally by phone, and believed that the foreign minister had very clearly understood him, and informed the foreign minister that he thought President Ronald Reagan was trying to reach President Galtieri by phone to inform him of the U.S. position."

After noting that the former members of the military junta had full knowledge of the U.S. position, the Rattenbach report notes that "the Argentine Government knew on 1 April that the United States would side with Great Britain if an armed conflict broke out."

The report also points out that after the 2 April operation a series of rash and hasty measures were taken, thus turning the operation into a military adventure, especially when the bellicose British reaction took place and Argentina had no diplomatic alternatives at hand to neutralize that reaction.

According to the report, none of the three Armed Forces was in the proper operational condition to confront the direct consequences of the archipelago's occupation. At the same time, a countless number of mistakes were made in coordinating tasks, in planning tactics, in logistic support, in the transport of materiel and troops, and even in overlapping the command jurisdictions of the Armed Forces Commands and the South Atlantic Theater of Operations [TOAS] and the Malvinas military garrison. It is pointed out that Galtieri himself gave several orders breaking the command chain which, as a member of the Military Committee, he had approved by ratifying the contents of the strategic documents opportunely drawn up.

As for Anaya, the report points out that the fleet's lack of capacity does not correspond to his decision to promote the idea of recovering the southern archipelago, an idea that had already appeared in December 1981, when he met with his operation commanders to inform them of this project.

According to the Rattenbach report, Vice Admiral Juan Lombardo, the TOAS commander, also did not use the fleet capability to any extent, and even showed indecision in breaking the British naval blockade with his naval units.

As an example of the lack of coordination between the various commanders, the report mentions that the TOAS commander, in allocating military resources to the Malvinas military garrison, placed air-naval resources under the control of the Navy, and Army aviation resources under the control of the Army. These should have been under the single control of the Air Force in view of the principle of joint leadership, the small size of the theater of operations, and the air resources available on the islands.

The report adds that Lombardo did not make any attempt to exhaust the enemy fleet through isolated actions by his surface units as a means of preventing the British from enjoying unrestricted naval superiority, nor did he attempt to carry out the attack he had scheduled in his plan when it had matured, which happened in San Carlos between 21 and 26 May, and which entailed a joint action by the land, air, and sea forces.

After charging other high-ranking military officers with important and numerous mistakes, the report refers at length to the performance of Malvinas Governor General Mario Menendez, the commander of the Malvinas military garrison. Among other charges, the report points out that Menendez, together with his joint staff, did not formally draw up a plan for joint operations which clearly and precisely established the missions of each of the components of his unit, and points out that neither did the TOAS commander request such a plan. It adds that Argentine Air Force resources on the island were not taken into account in Menendez' defense plans, and that he did not clearly establish the corresponding echelons and their respective responsibilities in organizing the chain of command within the TOAS joint command.

It also points out that in exercising his duties, General Menendez gave more importance to his role as governor than to his specific military role. It adds that this attitude was noticed and criticized by the high-ranking military authorities who visited the islands even before actual hostilities had begun.

Among its serious accusations, the Rattenbach report notes that General Mario Menendez attached little importance to developments outside the defensive positions in Puerto Argentino and that he had no knowledge of the real tactical situation, particularly regarding the morale and the physical condition of the troops deployed at several points on the archipelago, thus facilitating the capitulation at Darwin-Goose Green because of his ignorance about the real situation.

Regarding Menendez' attitude toward the high commanders, the report reveals that he did not inform his superior commander of the significance of developments in the Puerto Argentino garrison, but instead contacted other authorities and withheld important objective information about the garrison's tactical and logistic situation. According to the report, had command measures been opportunely adopted, considering that from the beginning a decision had been made to establish the main defense stronghold in Puerto Argentino, the capitulation of that garrison would have been delayed, with vital pschological effects on the garrison's troops.

The report adds that when the garrison capitulated there were no longer possibilities to control the troops, who retreated in disorder to Puerto Argentino in the face of the enemy attack. It notes that the ammunition had not yet run out, nor had the number of casualties amounted even closely to that established in the Military Justice Code. The regiments at Puerto Toward and Bahia Fox were not engaged in combat, although it should be recognized that they had little disposition to fight because of problems of isolation and a lack of mobility and food. The report adds that not even the war materiel which could later be used by the enemy was destroyed.

As for the commander of the Army units in the Malvinas garrison, General Oscar Jofre, the commission points out one very important aspect in the exercise of command -- one that cannot be overlooked -- regarding the absolute lack of adequate support which would have permitted the Army troops on the islands to develop their capabilities and consequently to achieve better results. The report notes that the land forces had to confront the dual threat of enemy troops and environmental conditions with absolutely deficient logistics, serious fire support limitations, severe troop transport limitations due to the lack of transport helicopters, and insufficient direct air and naval support.

In the chapter on apportionment of responsibilities, the Rattenbach report affirms that the then members of the military junta are responsible for driving the nation into a war with Great Britain without preparation for a confrontation of such character and magnitude, ending with the failure to attain a political objective and submerging the country in a critical political, economic, and social situation. They are charged with:

Failure to fully assess all factors which could affect the situation, to the detriment of the intended objective;

Committing the Armed Forces, as a result of hasty, incomplete, and defective planning, to a confrontation for which they were ill-prepared and ill-equipped, thus submitting them to military defeat;

Failure to adopt in the area of international politics the necessary precautionary diplomatic actions that could have assisted in attaining the political objective sought, or that could have neutralized the foreseeable effects should this objective not be attained;

Choosing the wrong time for conducting diplomatic and military actions in an attempt to achieve the objective sought, thus revealing a questionable attitude regarding the decision made and the operation executed;

Failure to take advantage of appropriate opportunities to secure an honorable and acceptable resolution of the conflict;

As for Galtieri, the report notes that his varied functions -- president, Army commander in chief, military junta member, and Military Committee member -- negatively affected his effective performance in each function. It holds him accountable for "assuming powers of the military junta in the process of decisionmaking regarding international politics, with future consequences for the course of the conflict, as he did by approving the explanatory communique of 2 March 1982 which turned out to be inopportune for the objective sought and needlessly alerted the British Government."

He is also charged with "undertaking, before the people of the nation -- at a time when moderation was advisable -- commitments that restricted the national government's freedom of action." He is charged with "confusing a short-term domestic policy objective (the need to revive the national reorganization process) with an undertaking that sought the reassertion of historical rights, leading to the conclusion that he sought to take political advantage if successful."

The charges the report makes against Costa Mendez are as numerous and as serious. It points out that "he did not fully appreciate what international reaction would be if the archipelago were to be occupied," although "he had been previously warned about the intention to do so." He is additionally charged with "making a mistaken evaluation, on 2 April 1982 before the national cabinet, on the results of the vote at the UN Security Council. He had estimated that the results would tilt in Argentina's favor."

Costa Mendez is also charged with inaccurately assessing the Argentine-U.S. relationship, thus decisively encouraging the junta to launch the operation without making the necessarily exhaustive evaluation of the international situation. Costa Mendez is held responsible for not emphatically drawing the national government's attention to the U.S. warning of April 1982 of its decision to support Great Britain in the event of a conflict and for not pointing out this serious warning to the military junta, in addition to having adopted, during the negotiations, useless posturing and attitudes that gradually closed the path for reasonable negotiations.

The report adds that a denunciation -- accompanied by proof -- was submitted to the commission linking Nicanor Costa Mendez with multinational enterprises. The honorable military junta was only opportunely informed about this since the charges had already been filed separately with the federal court.

The report makes no charges against any of the remaining ministers of the national cabinet, and after lengthily referring to the charges at a military strategy level, it discusses the penal liabilities of those who are accused. The liabilities are divided into the categories of political, penal, military-penal, military discipline, and military honor.

After dismissing the possibility that those charged are liable for punishment under the penal code, the Rattenbach commission recalls the military junta's act of 18 June 1976 by which the junta empowered itself to pass judgment on activities that represent serious mistakes in exercising public, political, or labor union duties or activities that may harm the political interest.

The report then points out that "in view of this, it is this commission's belief that those deeds of a political nature which are punishable, according to results of this investigation, should fall under and be punished in keeping with the military junta's act."

Applying codified sanctions individually, the commission states that Galtieri's behavior violated Article 45 of the nation's Constitution, the aforementioned Act of the Military Junta, and several articles of the Military Justice Code, among them Article 747, which provides for the death sentence or indefinite imprisonment.

Anaya is charged with identical violations, but not so Lami Dozo who, although he is also charged with violating Article 45 of the nation's Constitution and the Act of the Military Junta, is found accountable under Articles 737 and 740 of the Military Justice Code, the first of which provides only for a major prison term and the second for dismissal, arrest, or a major prison term. Former Foreign Minister Costa Mendez is charged with violation of the same constitutional article and the Military Junta Act.

Finally, the commission found that violations were committed as follows: Vice Admiral Leopoldo Suarez del Cerro against Article 737 of the Military Penal Code, which provides for a major prison term; Vice Admiral Juan Lombardo against Article 737 under which he would be liable to a 3- to 5-year prison term, and also against Article 514; General Osvaldo Garcia against Article 737; Brigadier Hellmuth Weber against Article 737; General Mario Benjamin Menendez against Articles 736 (dismissal, or arrest and major prison term), 742 (imprisonment or dismissal) 743 (arrest), and 751 (3-to 5-year prison term; General Oscar Jofre against Article 737; General Omar Parada against Article 737; ColonialJuan Mabragana against Article 750; Colonel Ernesto Peposst against Article 750; and Lieutenant Colonel Italo Piaggi against Article 751. Navy Captains Luis Lagos and Alfredo Astiz are to be submitted to inquests for failing to order their troops to put up appropriate resistance.

Report Leak Creates 'Commotion'

FY242340 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2048 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 23 Nov (DYN) -- The disclosure of the report prepared by the Inter-Force Committee on the military responsibility over the Malvinas war -- a situation labeled as "serious" by several officers because the report was considered to be a "military secret" -- created a general commotion in military circles today.

Vice President-elect Victor Martinez labeled the disclosure of the Rattenbach report on the responsibilities over the South Atlantic war as "a very sensitive issue." He added: "In addition to the individual punishments resulting from the war, we are concerned over its consequences, particularly its geopolitical impact."

On this occasion, Martinez reiterated the position of the Radical Civic Union "to carry out a thorough investigation" into all the events during the conflict, in addition to the responsibilities of military men and civilians who were in charge of the war.

Military sources indicated that this issue will be discussed by the military junta in the Condor Building tomorrow at 1030. The Military Junta reportedly has expressed its concern over "how a very sensitive and 'secret military' document was leaked to the press.

Junta Orders Investigation

PY242055 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2015 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Nov (TELAM) -- The Military Junta today decided to order that a military court conduct a pre-trial inquest to determine who is responsible for the disclosure of political and military secrets that resulted in the publication by the press of part of the contents of a special report. This report had been prepared by a committee charged with studying and evaluating political and strategic-military responsibilities during the South Atlantic war.

The Military Junta has also decided to ask the executive branch to pass the case file to a federal court in the face of the possible existence of punishable acts committed by civilians.

'28 Millones' Highlights Leak

PY240200 [Editorial Report] Argentina Televisora Color in Spanish at 0000 GMT on 24 November broadcast its regularly scheduled "28 Millones" program, opening with a 20-minute section dedicated to the publication of the Rattenbach commission report by the magazine SIETE DIAS. The program opened with anchorman Roberto Maidana referring to the publication of the top se ret report as a "journalistic bombshell," and asking "how could this infromation have been leaked?'

Journalist Monica Gutierrez then interviewed SIETE DIAS director Guillermo Martire on the matter. Martire answered Gutierrez' question on specifically what he had received by saying "I do not have the originals in my hand," only "photocopies." He said that someone obviously believed "that SIETE DIAS would be the only magazine brave enough to publish such an important document for the Argentine people." He said that "at about 1800 on Friday we received a call from an anonymous person who said that if we were interested in publishing an explosive article revealing extremely important information on the Malvinas war, we should go to a bar in downtown Buenos Aires the following day at the same time." Martire then said they were told that the photocopies would be left "in the men's bathroom." He said that he and the SIETE DIAS chief editor went to the bar, entered the bathroom, and "after a quick inspection, we found an envelope without anything written on it behind a drain pipe." He said that inside the envelope they found "photocopies of approximately 300 pages of the Rattenbach Commission's final report," adding that he "did not have any doubts about the authenticity of the photocopies" because he had a vague idea of what the contents and conclusions of the report would be.

Martire flatly denied that SIETE DIAS had paid "in dollars" for the photocopies, because "this type of information does not have a price." Asked whether they weren't afraid of the legal consequences that publishing top secret military or state material could have, Martire said he was not aware of the fact that the report had been labeled as a top military or state secret because most of the material included in the report is public knowledge.

Roberto Maidana then interviewed former Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez. Maidana said that Brigadier General Carlos Alberto Rey, a member of the Inter-Force Commission, had confirmed the "authenticity" of the photocopies."

Costa Mendez indicated that on two occasions he offered to be questioned by the commission. However, he said that "the commission does not have the power to judge me, nor to accuse me of misconduct." Asked about the commission's charges that in spite of having advance knowledge of the plans to recover the islands he had not adopted the necessary measures, Costa Mendez emphasized the "passion and dedication" shown by all the work done at the Chancellery." He added: "I am totally satisfied with the work done by the Chancellery." Costa Mendez indicated that "many of the accusations" made against him are "incorrect and inaccurate," such as the charge that he did not give the necessary advice on the reactions of other countries.

Costa Mendez concluded by saying that "the Constitution very clearly says who can judge me. The only ones who can judge me are the representatives of the Argentine people in the Chamber of Deputies and in the Senate."

'High-Ranking Officer' Cited as Source

PY250250 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0119 GMT 25 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 24 Nov (EFE) -- Today the Argentine military junta decided that both the military and federal courts should investigate the disclosure to the press of part of the "Rattenbach report" on responsibilities for the Malvinas war. In a communique released after today's meeting, it was reported that all the background on this case has been turned over to the courts "in view of the possible criminal offense by individuals or groups outside military jurisdiction who participated in the disclosure of the report."

During the meeting, which lasted 2 and 1/2 hours, in the Air Force Command Headquarters, the dissolution of this high ranking military organization was announced. The meeting, which was presided over General Reynaldo Bignone, was also attended by Army Commander General Cristino Nicolaides, Navy Commander Admiral Oscar Ruben Franco, and Major General Jose Maria Insua, replacing Air Force Commander Jorge Hughes who is on an official visit to India.

A source at the magazine SIETE DIAS has disclosed to EFE that the report was leaked to the press by a high-ranking officer of the military junta and that there was no payment involved despite claims to the contrary. The magazine source added that the person who delivered the material wanted to prevent this report "from never being disclosed" and those responsible from going unpunished.

Upon learning the text of the report, Raul Alfonsin's close aides said that the president-elect will have the responsibility of confirming, reducing, or commuting the sentences ordered by the Supreme Military Court of Justice, whose decisions will not be made known until after the presidential inauguration on 10 December.

Alfonsin To Decide on Sentences

PY241348 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1321 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 24 Nov (NA) -- German Lopez, the presidential secretary general-designate, today stated here that President-elect Raul Alfonsin "will make the final decision" on the punishments for those responsible for the Malvinas war defeat. Before meeting with the president-elect, Lopez stated that the decision by Alfonsin will be "according to the law and military rules."

BIGNONE PRAISES ACHIEVEMENT IN NUCLEAR FIELD

PY241330 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Relay from Government House]

[Excerpt] President Reynaldo Benito Bignone yesterday presided over a cabinet meeting during which he stated that the recent achievement in the uranium enrichment process shows that Argentina has a great capacity for absorbing technology and for training human resources that yields great advantages in the nuclear field. The president made this statement at the opening of the ministerial cabinet meeting, during which he said that out of conscience and national pride he is forced to suspend his activities to say a few emotional words:

Vice Admiral Carlos Castro Madero, chairman of the National Atomic Energy Commission [CNEA], has said that recognition of this significant achievement applies to all CNEA personnel, especially to those who directly participated in this acievement. In fact, the president stated, we have managed to develop a technology which had been exclusive to those countries most developed in producing enriched uranium. He said that this achievement will allow the country to further expand the degree of independence in the exclusively peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

General Bignone added that this event shows once more that Argentina has a great capacity for absorbing technology and for training human resources. He said that this achievement has provided tremendous comparative advantages in the nuclear field, and that the CNEA, headed by its chairman, has reached this objective after 25 years of fervent and dedicated work.

Castro Madero thanked the president for this praise and explained certain aspects of the achievement reached at the Pilcaniyeu plant.

CNEA Head on U.S. Pressure

PY241923 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Articles published in today's newspapers report that the United States is allegedly exerting pressure on Argentina to subject the Pilcaniyeu nuclear plant to the safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA]. On this subject, we held a telephone conversation with Admiral Carlos Castro Madero, the chairman of the National Atomic Energy Commission [CNEA], who said:

[Begin recording] [Question] Good afternoon, Admiral.

[Castro Madero] Good afternoon, how are you?

[Question] What can you say about this attitude adopted by the U.S. Government?

[Castro Madero] It is perfectly reasonable that they should request that this plant be subject to safeguards. For the time being, they have asked only that we do that. I would not say that they are exerting pressure. The United States, in keeping with its traditional policy, is only informing Argentina of its desire that the plant be subject to safeguards.

[Question] What will be Argentina's attitude in view of the U.S. Government's desire?

[Castro Madero] That is not a decision for me to make; it is up to the new government. The new government will have to decide what attitude to adopt in its relations with the United States. [end recording]

SILES ZUAZO ADDRESSES NATION, REFUSES TO RESIGN

PY250305 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0225 GMT 25 Nov 83

[Text] La Paz, 24 Nov (EFE) -- In a message to the nation, Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo today charged that a plot is under way to overthrow him and stated that he "will firmly defend the democratic process."

In a message broadcast over 9 national radio and television networks, Siles Zuazo said that those who want him to resign will have to drag both him and the people out of Government Palace. The president charged that a "constitutional coup" is under way in an attempt to violate the Constitution with the support of those traditional coup plotters who seek to restore the drug traffic rule as in previous years.

Siles Zuazo reaffirmed his "faith in the people" and noted that "the president will not fail the Bolivian people who elected him in three successive elections (1978, 1979, and 1980)." He described the alleged coup plotters as "displaced officers, radical political groups of either rightist or leftist inclinations, and opportunists." He reaffirmed, however, his faith that he will have the Bolivian people's solid support should these threats against the democratic process, which began in October 1982, materialize.

Siles warned the groups of alleged coup promoters that they will not have any international support if they interrupt the democratic process, which "the people will defend at any price." He said that groups of the extreme left and extreme right are openly carrying out a campaign against the constitutional government to "separate the president from the workers." Siles said that democracy has been misused by "anarchic" groups which do not want Bolivia's progress but its destruction.

Siles Zuazo denied that Bolivia's foreign image has deteriorated, noting that, on the contrary, "Bolivia deserves to be supported by the international community because its people have struggled to restore democracy." The president justified the political, economic, and social decisions adopted by his government" to attain Bolivia's total recovery."

The presidental message was delievered amidst persistent rumors of a coup d'etat to overthrow the democratic government in the wake of a terrorist escalation that concluded early this morning with the explosion of a powerful bomb which destroyed most of the National Congress building.

NATIONAL CONGRESS BUILDING BOMBED 24 NOV

PY241406 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1100 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Text] The National Congress building was the object of a terrorist attack during the predawn hours today when a bomb explosion destroyed the doors of the legislative palace. Slogans against the Congress were painted on the walls of the building.

Further on Bomb Attack

PY241831 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Excerpt] A powerful bomb, which went off at approximately 0400 this morning at the main door of the National Congress building, has revealed the development of a subversive plan to demolish the current Bolivian democratic process.

The explosion, which was heard over a several km area, destroyed doors and windows of the congressional building, affecting the Govern nt Palace and several other buildings in downtown La Paz. According to Bolivian police authorities, the plastic explosive could destroy the windows of buildings in an entire block.

National authorities and congressmen feel that this attack could be a political event reopening the path of terrorism aimed at destroying the Bolivian democratic process and replacing it with a coercive regime.

Havana Notes Bombing

FL242029 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1923 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Text] A powerful bomb today destroyed a door and several windows of the building that houses the Bolivian Congress, which is located a few meters from Government House. Some investigators believe that a very powerful device was used because some windows of neighboring buildings were also broken. Media sources indicate that no official information on the bombing has been released yet.

Congress Condemns Attack

PY250145 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Nov 83

[Text] Today the National Congress held a special session under the leadership of its president, Jaime Paz Zamora. The National Congress condemned the terrorist attack on the legislative branch early this morning. In a congressional declaration, the congressmen said that in view of this attack, all members of the National Congress find themselves united regardless of political ideologies.

The declaration says: The terrorist attack against the legislative branch, which is an attack on democratic legality and the civilized coexistence of the Bolivian people, finds us united regardless of ideological or party concepts with the common objective of saving democracy and constitutional legality. The declaration goes on to say: The congressmen who are guided by that responsibility will continue to fulfill their duties as indicated by the national Constitution, without giving in to the violence unleashed by the enemies of life, peace, and democracy.

Interior Minister on Bombing

PY242205 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Excerpts] (Juan Paraisi) has a last-minute report from the Interior Ministry:

[Begin relay] This is a report for all our listeners of Radio Illimani. A few minutes ago Interior Minister Federico Alvarez Plata left this building after holding brief meetings with Gualberto Claure, president of the Chamber of Deputies, and with the president of the Senate [passage indistinct]. The minister also met with the president of the National Congress, Jaime Paz Zamora. Upon leaving the ministry, Interior Minister Federico Alvarez Plata said:

[Begin recording] [Alvarez] First, I would like to express our support for and solidarity with the legislative branch in the name of the president and the executive branch.

[Question indistinct]

[Alvarez] This morning I visited the headquarters of the National Police and Departmental Police to give specific orders [passage indistinct].

[Question] Are there any clues?

[Alvarez] I believe so. They are working on some clues. We hope we are able to find the people responsible for the attack.

[Question] We visited the Congress building. Do you have any idea how much damage was done?

[Alvarez] I am sure you were able to see that it was a powerful explosion which has greatly damaged all the windows of the Legislative Palace. [end recording]

With regard to the Legislative Palace, it has been reported that Congress will hold a special session at 1500 this afternoon to discuss the attack perpetrated against the legislative branch. Both the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate will then continue the questioning of cabinet members regarding alleged guerrilla groups. There is a great deal of work now being carried out in the Legislative Palace. Many people are placing plastic curtains over the windows of the building. Congressional activities will return to normal after the special session this afternoon. [end relay]

Terrorists Said Seeking Division

PY250110 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Nov 83

[Text] Today the Bolivian Government accused the rightist groups of responsibility for the terrorist actions carried out in Bolivia in the past few months. Information Minister Mario Rueca Pena said that the antidemocratic groups are the ones who advocate and carry out terrorist acts, seeking to put an end to democracy and to destabilize the government of President Hernan Siles Zuazo.

Mario Rueda, on behalf of President Siles Zuazo, strongly condemned the terrorist attack perpetrated against the National Congress in downtown La Paz, an attack which also affected the Government Palace. He said it is surprising that the attack was carried out a few hours after the government was strongly criticized on the Senate floor.

The minister added that undoubtedly the terrorists are seeking to provoke a division between the executive and legislative branches by making people believe that the terrorist attack against the Congress was encouraged by the government.

COB SETS 24-HOUR DEADLINE ON SALARY DEMAND

PY241257 Paris AFP in Spanish 0141 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Excerpt] La Paz, 23 Nov (AFP) -- Bolivian Labor Confederation leader Juan Lechin Oquendo today set a 24-hour deadline for President Hernan Siles Zuazo to meet the workers' demand that a minimum salary with a flexible scale be enforced.

If our demand is not met, he added, it should be recalled that the labor legislation grants the right to exert pressure in order to have workers' demands met.

FIGUEIREDO MESSAGES BIGNONE ON NUCLEAR PROGRAM

PY220159 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 19 Nov 83 p 10

[Text] In a letter addressed to Argentine President Reynaldo Bignone, President Joao Figueiredo has expressed his "deep satisfaction" over Argentina's acquisition of the technology necessary to enrich uranium through the gaseous diffusion process. Previously Bignone had sent a letter to Figueiredo explaining the Argentine technological achievement.

In his letter to Bignone, Figueiredo wrote: "I am very grateful for your kind letter. I take this opportunity to express to you my deep satisfaction over this important goal achieved by the sister Republic of Argentina with the completion of the nuclear fuel cycle."

The letter, which was sent from Dakar, said: "I know that Argentine nuclear policy pursues peaceful purposes, as does Brazil's policy. Our two countries have attained an excellent level of cooperation in the nuclear field, and I am certain that the two countries will continue to seek mutual benefits and to promote the economic and social development of all Latin America."

In his letter to Figueiredo, Bignone underscored the "significance" of the Argentine achievement, noting that "no foreign aid was involved." Bignone also reasserted "Argentina's total support for the policy of nonproliferation of nuclear arms in relation to both developed and developing countries. In addition, Bignone voiced Argentina's total identification with the spirit and the provisions of the Latin American Nonproliferation Treaty," the Tlatelolco Treaty.

Bignone said that "the achievement made will have a major impact on the region, because it is a significant step toward Latin America's self-sufficiency in the important field of the peaceful use of nuclear energy."

MILITARY JUDGE WARNS OF DANGER OF COUP

PY250002 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 24 Nov 83 p 7

[Excerpt] Superior Military Court [STM] Justice Jorge Alberto Romeiro yesterday warned in Salvador that "the military can make another revolution and seize power again" if certain sectors continue to criticize and to reprimand President Figueiredo.

Romeiro said: "They are betraying President Figueiredo in a cowardly fasion. In worse times no one ever had the courage to criticize the government. I remember well the time of the Getulio Vargas dictatorship. Yet now that President Figueiredo is promoting political relaxation, they are taking advantage of this to criticize and even to reprimand the president. What could happen now is that the military may again seize power...."

Despite the reporters' demands, the STM justice declined to elaborate on the subject. He said: "I am not a politician. I am in no way linked to political activities. I am neither a leftist nor a rightist; I have always been a centrist. What I can say is that if things continued this way, the military can again make another revolution."

COURT RULES CNI NOT EMPOWERED TO MAKE ARRESTS

PY232120 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1615 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Luis Toro, legal adviser of Conchali resident Jose Santos Anaya Velazquez, has told Radio Cooperativa that at last those who are in charge of administering justice in our country understand the role and methods of the CNI [National Intelligence Center], and that the Court of Appeals has issued a truly historic ruling.

Anaya Velazquez had filed a writ for a preventive injunction. The (?full) court, made up of three justices, granted his writ and made several remarks. The justices pointed out that the CNI is not empowered to make arrests, much less to take people to secret jails.

[Begin Toro recording] This is an historic ruling, because the court has granted a request that legal advisers, lawyers and people interested in human rights have been seeking for a long time, claiming that the CNI is not empowered to make arrests. At several international forums, high-ranking government officials have pointed out that this is what makes the CNI different from the DINA [National Intelligence Directorate, replaced by the CNI]. However, everybody knows that the CNI has always executed arrests even though it is not empowered to do so. [end recording]

The three justices noted that Decree No 1878, whereby the CNI was created, does not empower the agency to execute arrests, and that such actions fall within the jurisdiction of public agencies like the Carabineros and the Investigations Department.

Neither the CNI, the interior minister, nor the government have thus far made any comments on the court's ruling.

PINOCHET WILL NOT ATTEND ALFONSIN INAUGURATION

PY231721 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Excerpt] At noon today President Pinochet confirmed that he will not travel to Argentina for Raul Alfonsin's inauguration. In response to questions on the subject, the chief of state said that in view of the economic crisis it is not advisable to leave the country, since the trip would create expenses. The president said that he will appoint a member of the Chilean Embassy in Buenos Aires to represent our country at the inauguration ceremony.

Former Presidential Hopeful Invited

PY241940 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1615 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Text] Radomiro Tomic, former Chilean presidential candidate and congressman, has been officially invited to attend the Argentine president-elect's inauguration. The invitation was made in a telegram signed by (Adolfo Gaa), secretary general of the Radical Civic Union.

Tomic, immediately accepted the invitation, and will attend Dr Raul Alfonsin's inauguration on 10 December along with Christian Democratic Party leader Gabriel Valdes and the top leaders of the Democratic Alliance, who have also been invited to participate in the ceremony.

PRESIDENT ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON KIDNAPPING

PA231445 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1405 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Report by Jorge Mendez from Narino Palace in Bogota]

[Text] The national government has just confirmed that Dr Jaime Betancur, state adviser, dean of the Law School and a professor at Catholic University, has been kidnapped. Betancur, the brother of the republic's president, was apparently kidnapped last night by the self-styled Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia [FARC]. [as heard] It has also been learned that the son of the French consul in Monteria has been kidnapped by FARC elements and taken to Alto Sinu.

In regard to the kidnapping of Dr Betancur, the Presidency of the Republic has just released the following communique:

The security measures usually taken in these cases have been implemented in an effort to find Dr Betancur, in accord with the constitutional principle that establishes that the lives, honor, and property of all citizens must be protected.

The government confirms its decision to consolidate the Colombian people's peace and well-being, aware as it is that only with them and with support for them will Colombia find real democracy, marked by political, economic, and social justice. With the good people, with the honest people -- who comprise the greatest majority of Colombians -- we will win the battle over the criminals, the violent elements, the enemies of peace. There is no doubt that by rallying around the authorities, and with the help of all Colombians of good will, we will defeat both crime and the criminals in order to win peace.

This is the text of the communique released a few minutes ago by the Presidency of the Republic, where the kidnapping of Dr Betancur has created a considerable stir.

Meanwhile, the president has guaranteed that the government will continue its plan to hold dialogue with the guerrillas despite this last-minute problem, in an effort to advance along peaceful paths. The ministers, who have met with the president here in Narino Palace, have condemned the kidnapping of the president's brother by subversives. However, they have also declared that they will continue their efforts to consolidate peaceful coexistence here in Colombia.

Search Continues

PA241315 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Text] Bogota -- State security bodies have unsuccessfully continued their search for Magistrate Jaime Betancur, who was kidnapped by a guerrilla group on Tuesday. Meanwhile, all political, economic, and social sectors in the country have repudiated the kidnapping, calling for the immediate return of the president's brother in good condition to his home.

The police, the DAS [Administrative Department of Security], the Army, and the Attorney General's office have designated special squads to conduct investigations in Bogota and neighboring municipalities, but as of early today no clues have been found to help resolve this case.

The kidnappers have maintained silence, but a Spanish news agency EFE correspondent claims that they phoned him to tell him that the clandestine Army of National Liberation, ELN, wants the country's economic and social conditions changed and new negotiations conducted to complement the amnesty law.

Although shattered by this development, President Betancur has continued to carry out his routine activities. At a secret extraordinary ministerial council session, he told his subordinates that he had asked the security bodies to handle this case in the same way they would handle the kidnapping of any other citizen.

In the National Congress, several documents have been filed rejecting this kidnapping. Liberal and Conservative parliamentarians have voiced negative opinions concerning the amnesty laws' results on behalf of peace.

The kidnapping of Magistrate Betancur was termed a barbaric action that violates democracy, freedom, and peace. This was stated in a lengthy declaration approved by the chamber, which will be sent to President Betancur today.

AMERICAN REPORTEDLY AMONG FIVE ELN HOSTAGES

PA241321 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Text] Bogota -- The pro-Cuban Army of National Liberation, ELN, currently holds five hostages, including an American, according to a report obtained from state security agencies. According to this report, the group currently claiming credit for the kidnapping of state adviser Jaime Betancur also holds U.S. citizen (Martin Stendhal). Others being held by the group include Luis Jose Arango (Icaza), Jose de los Santos Sarmiento, and Antonio Santander Salazar.

KIDNAPPED SON OF FRENCH DIPLOMAT STILL MISSING

PA242006 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Text] Bogota -- The search underway in the Cordoba Department for Jacques (Kergelius), son of the honorary consul of France in Monteria, has been fruitless thus far.

(Kergelius), 30, was kidnapped by a group of 20 guerrillas at 0700 Tuesday as he drove toward La Ceiba Farm in Tierra Alta Municipality. Authorities have maintained utmost secrecy in this case.

PEACE COMMISSION, FARC FACTION DISCUSS TRUCE

PA242213 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 21 Nov 83 pp 1-A, 8-A

[By Juan Jose Hoyos, EL TIEMPO correspondent]

[Excerpts] Puerto Berrio, 20 Nov -- After a fierce war that has claimed the lives of 840 people in a year and has turned thousands and thousands of hectares of the mid Magdalena region into a no man's land, guerrillas of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia [FARC] Fourth Front and the peasants of the region's self-defense groups met this week for the first time with members of the Peace Commission in search of an agreement that will put an end to the killings and the violence and allow the thousands of peasants who were forced to leave their land to return home.

The meeting was held on Saturday, 19 November, in the marshes of Barbacoas, Yondo municipality, on the border between the Antioquia and Santander Departments. More than 200 FARC guerrillas and peasants involved with the self-defense groups attended the meeting.

This was the first real meeting between the Peace Commission and the guerrillas groups operating in the mid Magdalena region since the amnesty law was decreed a year ago. The first meeting agreed upon by the guerrillas 20 days ago failed for various reasons.

Saturday's meeting took place at a time when the truce declared among the guerrillas, paramilitary groups, farm owners, and the Colombian Army has brought peace -- at least temporarily -- to the town of Puerto Berrio, an epicenter for the "undeclared civil war" that broke out more than a year ago in the mid Magdalena region.

The dialogue was attended by Antonio Duque Alvarez, national director of law enforcement instruction and high peace commissioner in the area, and by Florencia Bishop Monsignor Jose Luis Serna, representing the Peace Commission. The parish priest of the Puerto Berrio church, Gonzalo Lopez, also attended as mediator.

Duque Alvarez, high peace commissioner in the mid Magdalena region, asked the guerrillas to accept the amnesty law and lay down their weapons in order for peace to return to the region.

Msgr Jose Luis Serna told the guerrillas and the peasant self-defense groups that the government had taken the first steps to start an agrarian reform program in that area. Msgr Serna announced that the national government had already ordered the purchase of the Santa Clara farm, and estate of nearly 5,000 hectares located near Puerto Berrio, to begin distributing land to peasants of the areas most affected by violence. This distribution is part of the national government programs for the mid Magdalena region, approved jointly with the amnesty law.

The guerrillas asked the government, through the commission, for the demilatarization of the peasant areas and the lifting of the military siege on the guerrilla groups. They also insisted on the dismantling of the armed bands, which under names such as "MAS" [Death to Kidnappers], "The Smudged Ones," "The Crickets" [Los Grillos"], and others have sowed terror among the civilian population and murdered scores of persons accused of helping the guerrilla groups. The FARC faction also asked for a radical agrarian reform that will place the land in the hands of the peasants who work it. This reform, according to the request, must be accompanied by a credit and technical assistance program to be offered by the state entities of the agricultural and livestock sector.

The dialogue between the FARC Fourth Front and the Peace Commission delegates started at 1030 Saturday and continued until after 1400.

Meanwhile, the commission mediators began contacts with groups of the FARC Sixth Front in the San Bartolome and Alicante Rivers area, near Maceo, La Susana, Caracoli, and San Jose del Nus, also in the mid Magdalena region. The contacts included meetings between state officials sent by the commission and Sixth Front leaders. According to the mediators, the Sixth Front guerrillas could join the peace talks begun with the members of the Fourth Front, which operates between Puerto Berrio and Yondo, with one of its centers in the Barbacoas marshlands. This would bring peace, or at least would extend for many months a truce along the western bank of the Magdalena River, in Antioquia and Bolivar Departments.

NICARAGUAN MINISTER TEFEL MEETS LEADERS

PY240115 Paris AFP in Spanish 0049 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Lima, 22 Nov (AFP) -- Reinaldo Antonio Tefel, minister director of the Nicaraguan Social Security and Welfare Institute, today met with various Peruvian personalities to whom he explained the situation in Central American and in Nicaragua, which is being threatened by an armed intervention.

Tefel met first with the presidents of the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies, and in the afternoon he met with Javier Alva Orlandini, vice president of the republic and secretary general of the ruling Popular Action party. Tefel also talked with students at Catholic University, and lectured at the Peruvian chapter of the Latin American Anti-Imperialist Tribunal, which is headed by Senator Carlos Malpica. In the evening he met with authorities of various religious congregations at the Nicaraguan Embassy.

Tefel, who has been in Lima since last Saturday, was received by President Belaunde yesterday. In statements made in Lima, Tefel noted the danger of a U.S. invasion of Nicaragua before the end of the year. Tefel also requested the solidarity of the Peruvian and Latin American peoples in general in the face of this danger.

Tefel will travel to Panama tomorrow.

HEALTH, TRANSPORTATION STRIKES CONTINUE

PA240443 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Text] The 12,000 Peruvian doctors on strike for the past week have announced that as of tomorrow they will impose more radical measures for demanding a larger budget for the health sector and for the unfreezing of the minimum salary. Meanwhile, another 40,000 health workers continue to strike for salary increases.

The transportation workers are in their third day of strikes and are demanding greater government attention to that sector. Also, the 5,000 employees of the 38 provincial and district councils in Lima and Callao continue their strike initiated 15 days ago.

Transportation Strike Ends

PY241407 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Last night the public transport sector decided to lift the strike begun 3 days ago after the Land Transportation National Defense Front, headed by (Hernan Chan), held a 2-hour meeting with President Belaunde at the Government House. The decision to lift the strike was disclosed shortly after the meeting with the president by the front's assembly. The decision was taken to allow the government, exercising the extraordinary legislative powers conferred upon it by Congress, to adopt adequate measures to solve the transportation sector problems.

Upon leaving the government palace, (Chan) stated that the measures the government approved were of a financial and economic nature. They covered fares, regulations, and the organization of the transport service in order to make it more efficient.

COLORADO LEADERS ON ALFONSIN MEETING, RALLY

PY232205 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Excerpts] The Armed Forces commanders in chief and Colorado Party leaders will hold a meeting this afternoon. Colorado Party leaders Julio Maria Sanguinetti, Enrique Tarigo, and Jorge Batlle will participate in the meeting. El Espectador has learned that the meeting will be held in the Navy Officers Club at 1600.

Dr Enrique Tarigo has also confirmed the meeting. The Colorado leader summarized the talks he held with the new Argentine Government authorities and he referred to the rally to be held on Sunday, 27 November.

[Begin recording] [Tarigo] [In progress] We have talked about it. Dr Alfonsin was interested in Uruguay's present situation and in the ups and downs of our process. He is deeply concerned about these matters, and he is totally convinced that it is indispensable for Uruguay to return to democracy, as Argentina will. He said that this is necessary in order to implement bilateral and integration plans not only among the River Plate Basin countries but also among all the South American countries. Dr Alfonsin stressed, and naturally we agreed, that these plans require similar democratic governments in order to create integration associations.

[Correspondent] Doctor, do you believe that these meetings could clear the way for a dialogue in the future?

[Tarigo] Well, this is a preliminary meeting and we do not know what the agenda is. In the joint communique issued on 8 October, we clearly set some conditions for the resumption of the dialogue. So far the government has only partially complied with one condition, which was the lifting of proscriptions. However, we believe that during the meeting we will be able to discuss the way in which the government will meet the other conditions. After our conditions have been met, we will conduct political negotiations to replace the de facto government with a democratic government that will be elected in November 1984 and installed in March 1985. [end recording]

Dr Sanguinetti was also interviewed on the meeting held with the new Argentine Government authorities. The Colorado leaders concurred that the American Continent will be integrated only when all its countries have democratic governments. Asked about their meeting with the new Argentine Government authorities, Dr Julio Maria Sanguinetti said:

[Begin recording] [Sanguinetti] We met with President-elect Alfonsin, Economy Minister-designate Grinspun, Economy Under Secretary-designate (Ortuna), and with Foreign Minister-designate Caputo. The purpose of the meeting was to inform the new Argentine authorities of the Uruguayan situation, to exchange views on the various democratic processes on the continent, and to discuss the possibility of increasing ties in the future.

[Correspondent] Dr Sanguinetti, what do you think of the authorization for the 27 November rally?

[Sanguinetti] Next Sunday's mass rally will be a promising event. We want the demonstration to be peaceful and to show the unity of the people. We are urging the people to participate in the demonstration without party banners, but with only Uruguayan flags.

We want the rally to show that the Uruguayan people share the same desire for a return to democracy. We believe that it should be natural for the government to authorize rallies. However, under the present circumstances, we believe it was a positive measure that they did so. I believe that far from contributing to confrontation, rallies contribute to the country's pacification. [end recording]

Plans for Rally Discussed

PY231920 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] While the meeting between the Colorado Party members and the Military Junta is expected to take place this afternoon, the political parties have called on the people to attend a rally next Sunday. In fact, they have issued a joint communique calling on the citizenry to attend carrying only Uruguayan flags, with no party flags. This joint communique notes that the rally will center around a joint call to be made by party leaders after the national anthem is sung. Concerning the organization of the rally, El Espectador network interviewed Doctor (Edison Enrico):

[Begin recording] [(Enrico)] I personally think that all the people will take to the streets to support the efforts and the demands of the Uruguayan political parties. Under these conditions, I dare to think that although it is difficult to determine the exact turnout, beyond any doubt at least 50,000 people will attend.

[Correspondent] What steps did you take to allow the people to gather around the obelisk next Sunday?

[(Enrico)] Well, in the first place, we are talking to the various bus lines which are in charge of public transportation, asking them to supply additional buses on all lines and especially those that serve the interior. It is extremely difficult for the parties, which are emerging from a 10-year ban and lack funds, to be able to meet all these demands which at other times they could easily have met. However, we have complete confidence in the organizing committee and in the understanding and efforts of the Uruguayan people. We feel that they will want to support the political parties' demand that free elections [as heard] be held on the next Sunday in November amid freedom and democracy, without any proscribed people or parties, and that they will do their best to come to the rally and to participate peacefully and orderly giving support to the political parties.

[Correspondent] Doctor (Edison Enrico), thank you very much for your statements to Radio El Espectador. [End recording]

ENERGY MINISTERS DENY CREATION OF LATIN OPEC

FL241740 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1615 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Text] Cancun, Quintana Roo (Mexico) 24 Nov (NOTIMEX) -- It has been announced here that the energy ministers of Mexico, Venezuela, Trinidad and Tobago, and Ecuador, who will meet here today have denied that the objective of this meeting is to create a Latin American OPEC.

Jose Moreno Leon, Venezuela's energy minister, said that OPEC and Venezuela recognize Mexico's strategic role, its discipline, and its responsibility in the establishment of the world petroleum market. He said that on 7 December in Geneva, Switzerland, OPEC would correct errors by which some members have surpassed their export quotas, which weakens hydrocarbon prices on the international market. Moreno Leon said that Nicaragua is negotiating its debt with Venezuela, which has not sold crude to Nicaragua for 9 months because it has not received payment for previous sales.

Mexican Secretary of Energy, Mines, and Parastatal Industry Francisco Labastida Ochoa said that his secretariat and Pemex, which is a part of it, have only one interest -- Mexico. He pointed out that this country does not prejudge how countries that are beneficiaries of the San Jose Pact use the petroleum they receive, since that crude is meant to support the socioeconomic development of the countries of Central America and the Caribbean. He also said that Mexico has enough petroleum to last for the next 50 or 60 years and it will maintain an export level of 1.5 million barrels per day.

Eliseo Mendoza Berrueto, deputy secretary of energy, said that Mexico, despite its not belonging to OPEC, has acted in rigorous accordance with its own decisions, and Mexico's decision has been to seek price stability for crude.

TRADE TALKS WITH GDR OPEN IN MEXICO CITY

FL240223 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0122 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Text] Mexico City, 23 Nov (NOTIMEX) -- Trade between Mexico and the GDR will amount to more than $185 million by year's end, GDR Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Eduard Schwierz asserted today.

During the opening session of the fifth meeting of the Mexico-GDR Economic Cooperation Joint Committee, the German official noted that this year his country imported from Mexico goods in the amount of $110 million and exported to Mexico some $75 million worth of products. He stated that because of the world economic crisis, the two nations should adopt during the meeting measures and forceful actions suitable for a more fruitful trade which would insure better relations and increased trade in 1984. Schwierz said, however, that so far this year, due to Mexico's economic situation, GDR exports to this country have been reduced considerably, only $4 million for a total of approximately $29 million for 1983. [as received]

He said he feels that in order to develop the Mexico-GDR bilateral trade and the diversification of goods and products, a new protocol should be finalized. He explained that the protocol in force has achieved positive results in trade, despite the fact that not all objectives have been attained, which is why he said he advocates a new protocol providing for bilateral negotiations and continuing exports by Mexico and the GDR to financial firms of the Mexican and GDR private sectors.

UNOMASUNO CRITICIZES FRG DECISION ON MISSILES

PA250305 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 23 Nov 83 p 11

[Editorial: "FRG: Disarmament in View of History"]

[Text] After 3 days of heated debate, the FRG parliament decided, by a vote of 286 to 226, to authorize the installation of U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles. The motion presented by the government coalition headed by the Christian Democrats reaffirmed the commitment that the FRG assumed within NATO.

Nevertheless, the Social Democratic minority and the Green faction are vigorously opposed to the deployment. Former Social Democratic Chancellor Willy Brandt has said that the deployment of those missiles in Europe does not contribute in any way to the continent's security, and instead increases warlike tensions.

The governments of the other European countries where the Reagan administration plans to deploy the missiles have adopted the same decision as that of the Helmut Kohl government. Nevertheless, this does not mean that the European acceptance is unanimous. It even seems that judging from the constant mass protest demonstrations in almost all the countries, if such a measure had been submitted to a referendum, the medium-range nuclear weapons would not be deployed in those nations. In any case the promoters of the arms buildup insist on arguing that the nuclear deployments have no other purpose but to balance forces with the Soviet Union and therefore guarantee peace through deterrence. Regardless of the illogical foolishness of this argument, concrete experience shows that in this case the proposed objectives are a long way from being achieved. For the moment the NATO decision has provoked an angry reaction from the Soviet Union, and the Kremlin plans to increase its own arsenals and to develop the necessary technical elements so that more of its nuclear weapons can directly reach U.S. territory. The deployment of the medium-range missiles in Europe -- which is scheduled for December -- has already practically ruined the Geneva disarmament negotiations between the two superpowers. Washington's hypocrisy and Reagan's remarks about being willing to continue the Geneva talks cannot in any case conceal the dangerous consequences of rearmament.

In any case, the FRG should be the first country to advocate disarmament and negotiation in view of its history and the disastrous results of World WarII on its territory. It is undeniable that a new war would have even more catastrophic results there.

1984 COFFEE PRODUCTION, EXPORTS ANNOUNCED

FL232353 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2143 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Mexico City, 23 Nov (NOTIMEX) -- With (?a production) of 6.1 million quintals (1 quintal: 46 kilos) of coffee next year, Mexico is assured fourth place in worldwide coffee production, Antonio Cazel Sanchez, director of the Mexican Coffee Institute, asserted today.

On his arrival in this city, after attending a meeting of coffee-producing countries in El Salvador during which the commercial situation of coffee was examined, the official added that there will be a 3-percent increase in production next year compared to 1982. He noted that due to the stability of the international market, Mexico has at its disposal sufficient quantities and quality to export 1,891,000 bags of coffee annually to the countries which are members of the International Coffee Agreement and 800,000 bags to countries outside the agreement. He explained that because of this, it is estimated that the 2 million Mexicans in the coffee industry, 10 percent of the country's agricultural population, will make great profits.

BELIZE

GOVERNMENT DENIES U.S. FOOD PRODUCTION CHARGE

FL241318 Belize City Domestic Service in English 0100 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Through a release issued by the Government Information Service, the Government of Belize has reacted strongly to a statement by a United States Administration official in which he said that Belize is not self-sufficient in food production despite considerable land resources and a climate favorable to agriculture. The Ministry of Natural Resources has confirmed that this country is self-sufficient in basic food items and indeed, that there is a surplus in beef, corn, rice, beans, eggs, poultry, fish, [word indistinct] and other basic agricultural produce.

Government agricultural development strategy provides for cutbacks in the importation of food in the following areas: 1. processed foods; 2. oils and fats; 3. dairy products. While the Ministry of Natural Resources agrees that there are (?some constraints) in developing Belize's agricultural potential, it refutes the charges made by the U.S. official that there is an answer to the [words indistinct] agricultural strategy.

Belize has been producing certain farm produce under the Caribbean Food and Nutrition Strategy. It was clearly indentified under this plan that this country has a comparative advantage vis-a-vis other Caribbean Community countries. Under the strategy, these items which we did not produce could have been imported. Through this arrangement, it provided for a balancing of trade with our Caribbean (?partners).

The charge made by the U.S. Administration official and which appeared in certain sections of the local press last week (?was in) sharp contrast to a report prepared by the United States Agency for International Development, USAID, specifically on livestock production in Belize. The report states that the Government of Belize's agricultural development plan calls for the expansion in both production and processing technology in the development of the livestock sector and that investigative work [words indistinct] livestock feed provides basic support data for expanded production. The report also outlines some of the government's development strategy in the livestock industry.

Furthermore, government's agricultural development plan, which is now being implemented over a long-term period and (?marketed) over a 3-year period, concentrates the reality of the dynamic situation in which countries dependent on their agricultural production must make this production flexible with the changing market situation.

COSTA RICA

PANAMA'S NORIEGA ON OFFICIAL VISIT TO SAN JOSE

Arrival Reported

PA231523 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1456 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] San Jose, 23 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the National Defense Forces of Panama, today arrived in this capital on an official 10-hour visit. He was greeted at Juan Santamaria International Airport by Costa Rican Public Security Minister Angel Edmundo Solano Calderon and by Luis Carlos Noriega, his brother and Panamanian ambassador to Costa Rica.

Gen Noriega's itinerary includes a luncheon meeting at noon today with President Luis Alberto Monge, and a later visit to the Civil Guard installations where Panamanian officers are providing special training to Costa Rican police.

Meeting With Monge

PA242150 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Text] The Panamanian Government has reiterated its solidarity with Costa Rica during a meeting between General Manuel Antonio Noriega and Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge. The Government and the Defense Forces of the Republic of Panama expressed their willingness to come to Costa Rica's aid in the event of any kind of national emergency.

Gen Noriega, commander in chief of the Defense Forces of the Republic of Panama, and President Monge held a private meeting, during which they discussed the Central American situation and other topics of mutual concern. President Monge briefed Gen Noriega on Costa Rica's declaration of perpetual and active neutrality, and explained Costa Rica's well-founded reasons for making the declaration. President Monge noted that Costa Rica has been able to establish a very smooth and cordial relationship with the Panamanian National Guard thanks to the respect, generosity, and cordiality shown by the leaders of the Panamanian Government and the National Guard.

At one time, he said, the relationship might have struck Costa Ricans as unnatural, but at present we have no reason to keep the relationship a secret, because the people are responsive to it. He explained that during the past few months the Panamanian National Guard has helped train the Costa Rican Civil Guard, and that the courses have helped to improve the performance of that police force. We should always be grateful to the Panamanian National Guard and to the Panamanian Government for this assistance, Monge added.

Gen Noriega, who arrived in Costa Rica last night, returned to Panama this afternoon, after having held a 2-hour meeting with President Monge. He reiterated Panama's support of Costa Rica, and said that he and President Monge had discussed the Central American situation, which is a subject of major concern for both nations.

Panamanian Foreign Minister Carlos Ozores Typaldos, who is also the acting vice president of Panama, accompanied Gen Noriega during his brief visit to Costa Rica. He said that the purpose of this type of meeting is to maintain the good relations that exist between the two countries. The members of the State Security Council also took part in the meeting between President Monge and Gen Noriega.

Further on Monge Meeting

PA242216 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 24 Nov 83 p 1

[By Migdalia Fuentes]

[Excerpts] General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the National Defense Forces, and Luis Alberto Monge, the president of Costa Rica, met yesterday in San Jose, Costa Rica, to analyze the Central American situation including the reasons for and the consequences of the spiraling violence, it has been reported.

At the end of the meeting, Gen Noriega told LA PRENSA that President Monge asked him to convey to President de la Espriella the message that a very serious threat is hovering over Costa Rica, in the form of the 20,000 Nicaraguan refugees who are fleeing their country.

Noriega said that Monge described the situation as an "immigration bomb," and said that in addition, they were sitting on a "time bomb," represented by the diseases afflicting these refugees, such as malaria, dengue fever, and other illnesses that had already been eradicated from Costa Rica. According to Gen Noriega, Monge also stressed the poverty and illiteracy of these refugees. Noriega added that both he and Monge agreed that the situation posed by the poverty-stricken Nicaraguan refugees might spread to the Republic of Panama. Noriega said that "our authorities have to do some serious work to prevent these diseases from spreading."

From antoher quarter, reliable sources reported that a large number of these Nicaraguan refugees might be settled 35 km from the Panamanian border, which would definitely represent a serious problem for Panama.

Regarding the explosive situation being experienced by Costa Rica as a result of the deterioration of Central American into conflict, President Monge told LA PRENSA that Costa Rica does not fear a foreign invasion. Monge added: "Naturally, we do not want a foreign invasion. Nevertheless, we are always ready to seek recourse to international organizations if this were to occur. This morning (Wednesday) we were the target of what we consider an act of aggression against our honorary consulate in Amsterdam, which was occupied by several youths. We are already preparing a message to be sent to the prime minister of the Netherlands, rejecting the reasons cited by the youths in order to justify their action."

Monge, aged 58, has been head of the Executive Branch for almost 2 years. He denied that he is being accused of taking orders from the United States. He said that there is no division within the government on foreign policy issues. He added: "This will be clarified in the next few days. Unfortunately, I am not yet in a position to announce who the next foreign minister will be. Whenever I make the announcement, however, it would be a good occasion to clarify some of the reports and stories prompted by the foreign minister's resignation."

Referring to U.S.-Costa Rican relations, he said that they have always been very respectful. Monge added: U.S. relations with Costa Rica have not suffered the traumas that have, unfortunately, beset U.S. relations with other Latin American countries. At no time during my administration, nor at any time in the past, according to what I have learned about Costa Rica's relations with the United States, have we been subjected to any pressure or interference while making decisions as a sovereign state. Monge said that Costa Rica is a loyal friend of the United States. Regarding U.S. policy toward Costa Rica, he said: "They have never given any indication of seeking a satellite, nor would Costa Rica ever accept such a position. They have been seeking a loyal friend, and that we are."

LA PRENSA asked Monge which position he would prefer that Gonzalo Facio occupy: a post in the Costa Rican Foreign Ministry, or that of OAS secretary general. Monge said that the report that Facio had been appointed foreign minister was baseless, but that Costa Rica supports his candidacy for the post of OAS secretary general.

Panamanian Vice President Carlos Ozores said that Panama will request the Costa Rica-Nicaragua Mixed Commission to admit members of the Contadora Group countries as observers.

Dr Ozores said that the reason for the request is the fact that, in addition to the regional problems, Central America is facing border problems, and that the acceptance of this request would permit the Contadora Group countries to serve as witnesses to the talks of this commission. Ozores said that Costa Rica supports this proposal, and that he is waiting to see if Nicaragua too will respond favorably. He said that should this occur, we would be taking specific steps toward solving the problems of the Central American isthmus.

MONGE ON SEIZING OF CONSULATE IN NETHERLANDS

PA240442 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Text] A group of 25 youths, who identified themselves as members of the Movement of Solidarity with the Central American Peoples [Movimiento de Solidaridad con los Pueblos Centroamericanos] has seized the Costa Rican Consulate in the Netherlands, and asked the Costa Rican Government to desist from carrying out military maneuvers [words indistinct] U.S. Marines. They also requested that the leaders of ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance] and the Nicaraguan Democratic Force [FDN] be expelled from Costa Rica, because their military actions organized in Costa Rica slow down the Nicaraguan revolutionary process.

In a message to the prime minister of the Netherlands, President Luis Alberto Monge stated that Costa Rica rejects the (?statement by the student group) that there are U.S. troops [passage indistinct] that these facts have not been proven. Monge added that the group that has occupied the Costa Rican Consulate in Amsterdam are nothing but terrorists who are attacking the consular delegation of a country that does not have an army. When asked [passage indistinct] of the consulate, Monge responded that they could be Netherlands communist youth operating through the international communist apparatus to undermine and damage the Costa Rican proclamation of neutrality.

In a statement, Foreign Minister Fernando Volio Jimenez said that the situation at the Costa Rican Consulate in the Netherlands is part of the international campaign by the [passage indistinct] to undermine Costa Rica's prestige. International communism is irritated by the existence of the true democracy, and it does all it can to mar the clean history of this people, Volio Jimenez added. He explained that actions [words indistinct] imply nothing more than the desire of the Marxist-Leninists to harm Costa Rica, which has given signs of true democracy. The foreign minister agreed with President Monge in saying that it is to be understood that these actions [words indistinct] authorized by the Marxist governments, have their support and [words indistinct].

EL SALVADOR

COMMENTARY ON DECISION TO SET DATE FOR ELECTIONS

Magana 'Pleased'

PA232234 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] The National Constituent Assembly last night approved a decree calling for elections on 25 March. Although the presentation of the decree led to opposition from the so-called minority parties, it was approved by a broad majority. Several government officials and representatives of various sectors have commented on the call for elections. President Alvaro Magana said he was pleased by the assembly's decision.

[Begin recording] [Magana] I am very pleased that a decision has been made. This will eliminate many doubts and misunderstandings. We are also abiding by the Apaneca Pact's political timetable. Therefore, in this sense I am very pleased by last night's decision.

[Unidentified reporter] What is your opinion of the position of the so-called minority parties -- PCN [National Conciliation Party], AD [Democratic Action], and PPS [Salvadoran Popular Party]?

[Magana] As far as I understand from the reports published in the newspapers, it seems that the differences are over whether the elections will only be for president or also for municipal officials and deputies. I understand that this is the disagreement. However, I am pleased about the decision on the date for the presidential elections. If I correctly understand the reports, the decision that they reached last night must be incorporated [incorporarse] into the provisional regime. There is apparently unanimous agreement on the presidential elections, and I received the impression from the reports that the issue of the other elections will be discussed again.

[Reporter] Do you think this step will lead to the peace that we Salvadorans want so much?

[Magana] It is an essential element in the peace program we have drafted. We have always thought that it is the solution for our problem; that is to say, it is the only way to achieve a lasting peace within a democratic system along with our economic recovery and the maintenance of social reforms that will eliminate the problems and frictions [words indistinct]. So in this sense we are on the same wavelength to use a popular expression.

[Reporter] Can the military situation be solved?

[Magana] We are doing our best. I think that we are once again taking the offensive. Nevertheless, I have always said that a military solution (?might be achieved), but that it will not be enough to solve our problems. We have to continue carrying out the democratic process. That is what I mean when I speak of a lasting and stable peace.

[Reporter] Anything else to add to the YSU listeners?

[Magana] No, just thank you for the opportunity to make this statement about such an important decision as the one last night. You are the only ones who always remember me. [end recording]

Venceremos Criticizes 'Farce'

PA240257 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Text] Amid a politicking show, in which demagogy and the utmost cynicism abounded, the so-called Constituent Assembly has approved the call to the electoral farce on 25 March 1984. Nelson Segovia, of the Democratic Action Party, said without the slightest shame: All of us know the type of electoral masquerade that was held on 29 March 1982, the day after the elections. Without doubt, Nelson Segovia referred to the compromises and tricks that were agreed to among the various parties and the U.S. ambassador at that time, the sadly famous Dean Hinton.

For his part, Hugo Carrillo, of the National Conciliation Party, PCN, vaunting his cynicism said: Let's be honest.

Let's not go on with anomalies, he said. There is no civil registry. What kind of elections would be held in the face of a people [word indistinct] by electoral frauds? He added: We have struggled for 20 years, have gained political experience, and have fished in murky as well as stagnant waters. For this reason, we ask that the next elections be clean; that there be no mockery of the people as was the case on 28 March. The one speaking was precisely a representative of the party of the dictatorships, the PCN; the party that turned fraud into a veritable institution; the party that turned fraud into a further sophistry of the dictatorship.

In another development, the Democratic Action Party charged that ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance] is a party that leaves much to be desired. [passage indistinct]

The [words indistinct] as contributed by Alvaro Magana when he was interviewed by a local radio station about the decision made by the so-called Constituent Assembly. Magana said that he was pleased and immediately thanked the station most earnestly for allowing him to express his opinion, and because only they, the station people, had remembered him.

'Mask of False Democracy'

PA250107 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Text] The deputies of the Constituent Assembly are hurriedly trying to fulfill the deadline imposed by the Reagan administration to hold the electoral masquerade. As the time for a new Reagan certification before Congress on the respect for human rights in El Salvador draws near, the regime is trying to show progress in the failed process of democratization in order to continue receiving dollars from the U.S. Government.

Reagan also needs a mask of false democracy to justify the already determined military intervention against our people. For this reason, it is urgent to approve the new political constitution at any expense.

Havana Notes Election Date

PA250412 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Text] The minority parties of the so-called Salvadoran Constituent Assembly described as a sad night for democracy the surprising coalition of the majority parties announced after the presidential elections were approved and scheduled for 25 March 1984. Political observers have stated that the elections were pushed forward after the recent threats of a coup d'etat. They also recalled that because of internal differences the text for the new constitution has not been completed, and that this is an indispensable requirement if elections are going to be held.

Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana praised the Constituent Assembly's decision, but Msgr Arturo Rivera y Damas, archbishop of San Salvador, said that the elections will not solve the country's general crisis and stressed the need for new structural changes.

The FMLN-FDR have reiterated that conditions do not exist in El Salvador for the people to express their will freely in an election. They have demanded the abolition of the regime's repressive entities and the creation of a provisional government of full participation.

REPORTAGE ON GOVERNMENT, REBEL MILITARY ACTIVITY

Guerrillas Killed in San Miguel

PA232210 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 22 Nov 83 p 3

[Excerpts] San Miguel, 22 Nov -- Approximately 300 guerrillas who had gathered on "La Moreno" farm in Candelaria hamlet, jurisdiction of San Jorge, in San Miguel, have been cut off and almost wiped out by members of the Arce Infantry Battalion and the 3d Infantry Brigade of this city.

Among the 14 guerrillas who arrived in San Jorge searching for clothes, the women -- who were wearing only underwear, informants said -- reported that more than 200 extremists had been killed on "La Moreno" farm as a result of the Army ambush. All of this occurred on Sunday at 1900.

As a security measure, it was reported, the guerrillas had placed guard posts and sentries on the road leading to the farm. The Arce Battalion and 3d Brigade troops, who for 2 days had been carrying out searches in the area, surrounded them by approaching on the Chinameca side, where the terrain is more rugged in the areas surrounding El Pacayal Hill. A clash ensued, which lasted half an hour.

Fighting in Anamoros, Sociedad

PA232155 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 23 Nov 83 pp 2, 44

[Text] The Armed Forces Press Committee (COPREFA) has reported that fighting was continuing yesterday near Anamoros, in La Union Department, and Sociedad, in Morazan Department. After failing in attempts to seize Victoria and Tejutepeque in Cubanas Department, and Suchitoto in Cuscatlan Department, terrorist groups spread their violence to Concepcion Batres in Usulutan Department, where they also failed in their attempt to seize that town.

With these results, they went on to harass Sociedad last week and, when they failed there, too, they attacked Anamoros. According to official reports, they ambushed Army troops in Anamoros and killed 13 soldiers. However, the exact number of rebel casualties was still unknown after 48 hours of fighting. It has been unofficially reported that the guerrillas sustained many casualties, and that the fighting has increased in the past few hours.

The guerrillas went to Sociedad again yesterday and attacked security troops there. According to official reports, fighting was still underway on the outskirts of Anamoros and Sociedad in the afternoon hours.

Weapons Seized in Anamoros

PA230446 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Attention: From the command post of the northern Rafael Arce Zablah rigade we have received reports that the number of rifles taken from the dictatorship in the Anamoros battle has increased. The number of grenades and projectiles for the 81-mm mortars and 90-mm cannon taken in the Anamoros battle has also increased. We will again read the results of the victorious operation, "In the Anti-Imperialist Struggle Until Victory, Commander Herbert is Present."

These are the results. The revolutionary army took from the dictatorship's troops 153 rifles, including G-3's, M-16's, and 1 Kalil, 4 M-79 grenade launchers, 1 HK-21 machinegun, 1 81-mm mortar with 46 grenades, 1 90-mm cannon with 32 projectiles, 3 TRC-7 radios for military communications, 50,000 7.62 caliber bullets, and some 135 prisoners of war. These are the results of the historic Anamoros battle, "In the Anti-Imperialist Struggle Until Victory, Commander Herbert Is Present." Our mobile unit has reported that, as a result of the last two clashes at the Francisco Sanchez Northeastern Front in the past few days, the revolutionary army has taken from the dictatorship a total of 221 rifles. In addition, our Rafael Arce Zablah units have taken 7 M-79 grenade launchers, 2 90-mm cannons, 2 M-60 machineguns, 1 HK-21 machinegun, 1 81-mm mortar from the dictatorship, as well as 185 prisoners of war.

Havana on Recent Clashes

PA232143 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] According to reports, fierce fighting between Salvadoran guerrillas and Army troops has been taking place near the towns of Sociedad and Anamoros, where the Salvadoran regime has sent thousands of reinforcements in the past few hours. Official sources reported in San Salvador that four Army battalions trained in the United States in counterinsurgency tactics are trying to recover Anamoros, where 12 soldiers were killed, 14 wounded, and 135 surrendered to the guerrilla forces last Sunday.

Radio Venceremos, voice of the FMLN, reported that on 16 November Honduran soldiers entered at the border town of Las Pitas, in the department of La Union, killing a peasant and kidnapping three others. The rebel station added that during their incursions into Salvadoran territory, the Hondruan soldiers kill peasants, burn houses and steal cattle and other personal property. The Committee of Mothers of Political Prisoners of El Salvador has charged that soldiers of the Salvadoran regime have kidnapped 27 people in the past few days, among them Salvador Emilio, Rosa Escabilla Mejia, Jose Corea, Ana Miriam Rivera, and Marcos Antonio Beltran, whose whereabouts are so far unknown.

FMLN Attack Causes Blackout

PA232146 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Chalatenango Department is without vital electrical service after FMLN combatants yesterday dynamited several posts carrying high-voltage lines, civilian and military sources in the area have reported. According to the reports, at about 2000 last night a group of insurgents dynamited several posts carrying high-voltage lines near (Las Garzitas) turnoff, in the area of Aguilares, causing a blackout throughout Chalatenango Department. The guerrillas reportedly limited themselves to sabotaging electrical service, after which they fled the area. There have been no reports of personal injuries among the local people. It has not yet been reported whether CEL [Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission] workers have begun repairing the lines damaged in this new attack on the country's economy.

Army Pursuing Rebels

PA242234 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 24 Nov 83 pp 2, 40

[Excerpts] Troops of the 3d Infantry Brigade headquartered in San Miguel, the 6th Infantry Brigade of La Union, and the Armed Forces Command Training Center in Gotera are participating in a new combing operation in La Union, San Miguel, Usulutan, and Morazan Departments.

The infantry units have the support of the Salvadoran Air Force and of artillery units. The military patrols are pursuing the terrorist groups that in the last few days have been harassing the towns of Anamoros, Corinto, San Jorge, Santa Elena, and San Rafael Oriente. Armed Forces spokesmen yesterday indicated that at the end of this new operation to locate and destroy extremist camps or redoubts, the Armed Forces Press Committee will issue the appropriate report.

The Armed Forces have total control over the Pan-American, coastal, and northern trunk highways as well as of the roads leading to the departmental capitals and the towns under their jurisdiction. Soldiers are patrolling the most important roads on which terrorist groups have attacked, stolen from, and threatened drivers and pedestrians in recent weeks.

The Army is now intensely patrolling the section of the road from San Martin to Suchitoto at the request of the residents of those towns and the communities in between. In recent months the situation has been worrisome because the extremists have been stealing money, jewelry, documents, clothing, food, and anything else of value owned by travelers on the road.

Operations in Cuscatlan, Cabanas

PA242202 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Text] Counterinsurgency operations have continued for the 5th consecutive day in Cuscatlan and Cabanas Departments. Late yesterday there was heavy fighting south of Tenancingo and north of Tejutepeque, military reports indicate. The Atlacatl Battalion and units of the Sensuntepeque and Cuscatlan detachments are participating in the counterinsurgency operations. The area of Cinquera, Tenancingo, and Tejutepeque is being cleared of subversives, who have withdrawn to the center of San Vincete Department, in the area of Cerros de San Pedro, because of the action of the Armed Forces.

GUATEMALA

ASPIRING POLITICAL PARTIES CONTINUE TO REGISTER

PA241900 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Text] To date, 11 committees for the formation of political parties have been authorized to register their members and to form parties. The government requires a minimum of 4,000 signatures to give legal standing to a political party. The committees that have received formal approval to register members are: the National Unity Front, FUN; the Democratic Revolutionary Union; the National Liberation Movement; the Emerging Movement for Harmony; the Democratic Institutional Party, PID; the Peoples Democratic Force [Fuerza Democratica Popular]; the Union of the National Center; the National Democratic Coordinating Board; the National Renovating Party; the Anticommunist Unification Party [Partido de Unificacion Anticommunista]; and the Humanist Movement for Democratic Integration [Movimiento Humanista de Integracion Democrata].

The FUN has completed nearly 100 membership lists, bringing he total of registered members to approximately 2,000. Today the FUN will turn in 40 more membership lists, which, together with the first lists that it had turned in, will make a total of 98 lists. The FUN was the first committee to obtain authorization to fill out its membership lists, and it has an edge over those parties that are still compiling their lists.

HONDURAS

SUAZO APPOINTS COMMISSION FOR U.S. VISIT

PA232019 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] President Roberto Suazo Cordova yesterday appointed the high-level commission that will travel to the United States to discuss bilateral relations between the two nations. The commission will attempt to increase the economic aid obtained from the United States.

A brief official communique on the appointment reads as follows: The delegation is headed by Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica. The other members of the commission are: Roberto Flores Facusse, secretary of state for the presidency, General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, commander in chief of the Honduran Armed Forces; Arturo Corleto Moreira, secretary of state for finance and public credit; Juan Agurcia Ewing, Honduran ambassador to the United States; Moises Starkman, economic adviser to the Honduran Embassy in the United States; and Nicolas Atala Simmon, Honduran consul general in Miami.

SUAZO ON CENTRAL AMERICAN MILITARY BALANCE

PA231945 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1647 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Madrid, 23 Nov (EFE) -- Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova has stated that Nicaragua has 120,000 men in arms, and that Cuban advisers, as well as terrorists from the PLO, ETA, and other similar groups, are operating there. The Spanish daily ABC today published in its center pages an exclusive interview with the Honduran president. The topic Central America is the highlight of the daily's title page, and the publication also carries an editorial asking that Spain cease its economic aid "to the Nicaraguan dictatorship."

In the interview, Suazo Cordova states that "the sum total of the Honduran, Salvadoran, and Guatemalan Armed Forces barely numbers 60,000 men." He adds that "this gives an indication of the real danger that we are confronting, and emphasizes the urgent need to unite in order to defend democracy."

ABC recalls the fact that "special U.S. counterinsurgency troops were designated to take part in the latest military maneuvers that have been taking place in Honduras." In the opinion of the Honduran president, "the violence unleased by Soviet imperialism has created a highly volatile atmosphere in Central America."

NICARAGUA

HELICOPTER FROM HONDURAS ATTACKS BORDER POSTS

PA242005 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1928 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Text] Managua, 24 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry today reported that a helicopter "coming from Honduras" attacked the Murupuchi, El Portillo, and Macarali border posts in Nicaragua. The Foreign Ministry's Information and Press Department said that the attack by the "olive drab" helicopter was carried out with .50-cal machineguns, and took place at 2200 GMT (1600 local) on 22 November. The border posts are close to the city of Jalapa, 300 km north of Managua, and are located in Nueva Segovia Department, on the Honduran border.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman told ACAN-EFE today that "the attack by the aircraft coming from Honduran territory lasted 40 minutes. After the attack, the aircraft flew back the way it came." According to the official source, "these acts of provocation against the Nicaraguan people cast doubt on the Honduran Government's professed desire for peace, and once again confirm the Honduran authorities' involvement in the plans of aggression that the Reagan administration is carrying out against Nicaragua from Honduran territory."

COSTA RICA NOTIFIED OF CONTRA MOBILIZATION

PA232035 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] More than 1,000 counterrevolutionaries are reportedly gathering along different points of Costa Rica's northern border to attack Nicaraguan villages. The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry has notified the Costa Rican Government of the counterrevolutionary moves so that it may take urgent steps to prevent these Somozist attacks, which are aimed at damaging Nicaraguan-Costa Rican relations.

The reports say that the contras are mobilizing at Las Pavas, La Libertad, Cacahuatal, El Cacao, and Hacienda Cabaleta, very close to the Nicaraguan border post of Penas Blancas. The Foreign Ministry report says that the contras are planning to use the Upala airport to provide aerial support for their attacks. Nicaragua also has told the Costa Rican Government that there are contingents of FDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Force] guardsmen on Costa Rican territory who are planning to open a new front for their attacks on Nicaragua.

Havana Notes Activity

FL231252 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] The Nicaraguan Government has reported that between 700 and 1200 counterrevolutionaries are concentrated in Costa Rican sectors near the Costa Rica-Nicaragua border, and has asked for the adoption of urgent measures, based on the neutrality proclaimed by Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge, to prevent new attacks. Those forces, supported by the Ronald Reagan administration, are planning to use the Upala airport, and they are mobilizing in the Costa Rican areas of Las Pavas, Libertad, Cacahuatal, El Cacao and in the area surrounding the border post of Penas Blancas. Meanwhile, the Sandinist People's Army and the territorial militia repelled two groups of counterrevolutionaries that had penetrated Nicaragua from Costa Rica, killing 12 of them in the southern department of San Juan.

FDN LEADER CALERO CITED ON 'INVASION' PLANS

PA231530 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Mexico City -- Adolfo Calero, a Somozist counterrevolutionary, has told the press that the plans of the criminal bands include occupying a portion of our national territory and establishing what they have termed a government to invade our fatherland which would lead to a direct invasion by Yankee troops. This statement by Calero was published today in the Mexican daily EXCELSIOR. Calero admitted that the groups that are attacking the Sandinist People's Revolution from Honduras and Costa Rica consider the possibility of convoking CONDECA to be a real option in mounting a joint military operation against Nicaragua.

Calero noted that both the self-styled FDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Forces] and ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance], which is commanded by the traitor Pastora, will continue to sow terror among our people through operations devised by the Yankee Pentagon, and will apply new political pressure, by using U.S. allies in the region. EXCELSIOR pointed out that the Somozist leader's statement coincides with persistent reports from circles close to Reagan about preparations being made by the Yankee Army, in collaboration with the Guatemalan, Honduran, and Salvadoran Armies, to invade our fatherland.

DEFENSE MINISTRY REPORTS 27 SOMOZISTS KILLED

PA231216 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Twenty-seven Somozist counterrevolutionaries were killed over the weekend in clashes originating in Honduras and Costa Rica, the Nicaraguan Defense Ministry reported today. In Nueva Segovia Department, near the border village of Jalapa, nine FDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Front] Somozist guards died when they entered a field that had been mined by the Sandinist People's Army, the report said.

In the southern region, where the bands led by traitor Pastora operate, eight Somozist guards were killed on Friday a short distance from the Costa Rican border, while trying to advance toward the country's interior. In Soan Miguelito, on the southern shore of Lake Nicaragua, 10 Somozist guards and ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance] members died, including Martin Lopez, a criminal who is well known under the alias of Robinson. In both cases, the Somozist troops retreated toward Costa Rica, according to Captain Bosco Centeno, chief of the border troops in the southern region. Capt Centeno also said that concentrations of Somozist ARDE members have been detected on Costa Rican territory, on the farm in La (Chalupa), at (La Victoria), on the hill of Las Mercedes, and in other border areas, where they receive supplies from aircraft belonging to the CIA.

BORGE ALLEGES CONTRA PLAN TO KILL OBANDO

PA250359 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 25 Nov 83

[Excerpt] During the closing of the Third Scientific Meeting and the First Nicaraguan-U.S. Medical Colloquium, Tomas Borge, commander of the revolution and interior minister, tonight disclosed counterrevolutionary plans to kill Managua Archbishop Miguel Obando and opposition leaders. Talking to hundreds of health workers, Borge reported that in Miami and Honduras, Somozist counterrevolutionary leaders have discussed a plan to kill religious and opposition political leaders. Here we have an excerpt of Borge when he made these charges:

[Begin Borge recording] We have received reports that are increasingly alarming. We have learned that there are plans to kill religious leaders and representatives of opposition parties in Nicaragua in order to make us look like the ones responsible for these crimes. We have received reports that a plan to kill Managua Archbishop Miguel Obando has been discussed in Miami and Honduras, specifically in an effort to promote a popular uprising against the revolution. [Words indistinct] assassins who have not hesitated to gun down defenseless peasants, to rape women, and to kill priests. They are the same people who killed Pedro Joaquin Chamorro and tried to blame the FSLN for that crime. They operate on the basis of lies, but they are capable of the worst crimes. [end recording]

COMMENT ON USSR'S DECISION ON GENEVA TALKS

PA231934 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] After countless and fruitless efforts to overcome the stalemate in the Geneva talks, the USSR, as it warned it would, has suspended the current round of negotiations it was holding with the United States on the subject of nuclear missiles in Europe, offering no new date for the resumption of talks.

The announcement was made in Geneva this morning at a very brief meeting between the two governments' representatives only hours after the FRG parliament approved the installation of the new U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles in that country.

Based on the decision made by the FRG parliament, the parts for the first Pershing II missiles -- capable of destroying selected targets deep inside USSR territory and, therefore, considered first-strike weapons -- will begin to arrive in the FRG today.

The FRG Government's decision to approve the installation of 108 Pershing II rockets and 96 cruise missiles on its territory was approved by a vote of 286 to 226, after a heated 2-day debate in which both Social Democratic deputies and ecologists voiced their opposition.

Social Democratic leader Willy Brandt warned that the installation of these weapons will have very grave consequences for Europe, and repeated his accusation that the United States has stubbornly impeded the talks with the USSR in Geneva. Ecologist [name indistinct] said that Europe will face another Hiroshima if the missiles are installed, and accused the government of ignoring the will of the FRG people, since the majority of FRG citizens are opposed to the deployment of these missiles.

'OUR AMERICA' ON COSTA RICA'S NEUTRALITY

PA250351 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 24 Nov 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] On 17 November, Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge officially proclaimed his country's perpetual, active, and unarmed neutrality in the Central American conflicts. Monge announced the commitments that his government now assumes in the military and political fields. He stressed that active neutrality is fully compatible with Costa Rica's rights as a member of the United Nations.

Shortly afterward it was learned that the United States decided to suspend the economic assistance programs planned by the Agency for International Development. Political circles commented that this is a measure designed to pressure Costa Rica so that its announced neutrality will develop cracks and Washington can undertake its military plans in the region without any limitations.

According to what Curtin Winsor, the U.S. ambassador in San Jose, has disclosed, the U.S. Government plans to install an armed force on the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan border soon and carry out other military actions in the region.

A spokesman of the political directorate of the ruling National Liberation Party recently expressed the party's concern over U.S. plans in Costa Rica, stressing that U.S. objectives in that country could lead to a radical change in bilateral relations. Leaders of other Costa Rican political parties agree in pointing out that the U.S. policy seeks to involve Costa Rica directly in military actions that have been planned against Nicaragua under the cover of the Central American Defense Council, CONDECA.

Danilo Chaverri, leader of the Social Christian Unity Coalition and deputy chief of its legislative bloc, has sent a letter to President Monge stating that the arrival of a U.S. military force in Costa Rica could be interpreted as a hostile provocation against Nicaragua. Political representatives of all sectors, from socialists to center-left independents, agree in pointing out that the neutrality policy announced by the San Jose government last week must be implemented and made truly effective.

Nevertheless, in recent days there has been growing fear that the diplomatic neutrality will be manipulated by the U.S. Government to conceal the launching from Costa Rican territory of large-scale war actions against Nicaragua. The Sandinist government has sent a communique to the Costa Rican Government expressing its confidence that Costa Rica's neutrality and the rights and duties inherent in it will serve the cause of peace and will be an example so that Central American territories will not be used as bases of aggression against other states of the area. The document stressed that the Costa Rican people and government can count on Nicaragua in the necessary efforts to preserve a climate of peace and respect in their relations, thus giving an example and encouragement to the sister peoples of Central America.

After stressing that the Costa Rican decision should serve to end the presence of foreign troops in Central America, the Nicaraguan Government Junta described Costa Rica's proclamation of neutrality as a constructive action in view of the serious crisis in the region, which is threatened by the U.S. warmongering policy. The Sandinist revolutionaries urged the Latin American governments and the international community to give their effective political support to the measure so as to create a real climate of peace and security in the region.

ROCA HOLDS TALKS IN GDR; TRADE RELATIONS PRAISED

FL240228 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Text] The GDR and Cuba today declared in Berlin that their bilateral economic relations are developing dynamically and beneficially. This was reported during a meeting between Deputy Chairman Gunther Kleiber, Council of Ministers of the GDR, and Cuban Minister of the Food Industry Alejandro Roca. In their conversations, they dealt with matters related to the intensification and enlargement of scientific, technical, and economic cooperation between the two countries, principally in the food sector. Kleiber and Alejandro Roca confirmed that the quantitative and qualitative increase in the level of cooperation in the mechanization of food production was also improving.

PDRY PRESIDIUM CHAIRMAN AL-HASANI RECEIVES FARAH

FL232304 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2107 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] 'Ali Nasir Muhammad al-Hasani, secretary general of the Yemen Socialist Party and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, has received Levi Farah, Cuban minister of construction abroad.

The Yemeni leader, who is in addition chairman of the Council of Ministers, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY], expressed satisfaction over the development of friendly relations between the two countries. He highly praised Cuba's principled international position, its support of the Arab people's liberation movement, and its struggle against the forces of colonialism and neocolonialism.

'Ali Nasir Muhammad pointed out Democratic Yemen's solidarity with the Cuban people in building socialism and the firm resistance of Cuban allies to imperialist attacks.

RODRIGUEZ MEETS WITH CEMA DELEGATION HEADS

FL241358 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has held conversations with the heads of delegations to the 24th meeting of the CEMA Permanent Commission on Electrical and Postal Communications.

During the meeting, Rodriguez, who is also Cuba's representative to CEMA, gave an extensive explanation of the development of our economy within the context of the international political situation.

In particular, he mentioned the importance of the development of communications in Cuba and the support in this area from the member countries of the international organization.

RODRIGUEZ PRESIDES AT CLOSURE OF PIONEER MEETING

FL191434 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the party Politburo, presided over the closing session of the seventh meeting of leaders of the Jose Marti Pioneers held at the FAR Universal Hall in Havana City. More than 900 delegates participated.

At the meeting, reports were debated that dealt with proposed statues for the Pioneers, recreational installations, vacation plans, and other topics. [Havana Television Service in Spanish at 0100 GMT 19 Nov 83 added that "Jaime Crombet, member of the Central Committee Secretariat," also was present.]

BARBADOS

ST JOHN STATES CARICOM WILL NOT BREAK UP

FL240159 Bridgetown CANA in English 2345 GMT 23 Nov 83

[By Irvine Reid]

[Excerpt] Bridgetown, Barbados, Nov 23, CANA -- Barbados Deputy Prime Minister Bernard St John said today that the 13-nation Caribbean Community (Caricom) is not going to break up as a result of sharp divisions over the U.S.-led invasion of member state Grenada.

Addressing the Barbados Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI), St John said "there is no doubt about it, the Grenada situation has brought to light a diversity of views within the Community on certain political aspects of the Community. "We must also remember that the Community has been resilient enough to have survived the failure of the heads of government to meet in seven years (before 1982) and the trade ministers and other ministers in the Community continued to commune with each other. I think that the feelings of the people of the Community and institutions such as yours will continue to be very helpful in preserving the Community and charting its course," he told the private sector group.

St John, who is minister of trade and industry, said a considerable number of jobs, investors, and others were dependent on the Community. "There can be no doubt about it, the Community has expanded to such an extent that no country in the Community can say that it does not benefit directly or indirectly from its membership of the Community," St John said. The split over Grenada occurred when seven Caricom member nations provided forces for the invasion while Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana, Belize, and the Bahamas opposed the action.

GRENADA

CONTROVERSY OVER MCINTYRE'S COUNCIL POSITION

Confirmed as Head of Council

FL240131 Bridgetown CANA in English 2342 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Nov 23, CANA -- Economist McIntyre is definitely returning to Grenada shortly to head the interim government appointed by Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon two weeks ago, acting Chairman Nicholas Brathwaite has said. Mr Brathwaite, however, could give no further details to CANA. McIntyre, 51, has been told he would have to resign his job as secretary-general of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to take up the chairmanship of the Grenadian Advisory Council, UN officials said. His appointment had been announced pending leave from his UN employers.

The council will run the country until elections can be held sometime next year. Brathwaite and six other members of the nine-man administration have already started the task of rehabilitating the island following the U.S.-led invasion last month. Apart from McIntyre, the other member, Allan Kirton, whose portfolio is the Civil Service, is not yet in Grenada.

Kirton is permanent secretary to Prime Minister Edward Seaga of Jamaica. Diplomatic sources here said McIntyre may arrive next Sunday or Monday.

Unable To Take Position

FL241758 Bridgetown CANA in English 1717 GMT 24 Nov 83

[Text] New Delhi, Nov 24, CANA-REUTER -- Alister McIntyre, a Grenada economist named two weeks ago to head the island's temporary government, will be unable to take up the post because of illness, the Commonwealth Secretariat said today. Commonwealth Secretary-General Shridath Ramphal said McIntyre, 51, needed four months of medical treatment in Geneva, where he has been based as a UN official.

The announcement was made to government leaders attending the Commonwealth summit in New Delhi. McIntyre was appointed by Grenada Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon on November 10 to lead a civilian interim administration until the island, invaded by U.S.-led forces last month, holds general elections.

A Commonwealth spokesman said the Commonwealth leaders regretted McIntyre's inability to serve. It was not known yet whether the Commonwealth Secretariat would be involved in trying to find a successor.

McIntyre is deputy secretary-general of the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). Jamaican officials at the summit said they were disappointed by the announcement, but added they could not discuss the issue until receiving further details.

They said they hoped the setting up of a Grenadian civil administration on the island would not be delayed or inhibited. It was important to restore normality in Grenada quickly, they said. "Although it is a small country, legitimate authority should be restored soon, a police force established, and taxes collected and so on," they said.

SPORADIC SNIPING CONTINUES; NO CASUALTIES

FL231313 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Here in the Caribbean 900 U.S. Army soldiers returned to Ft Bragg, North Carolina, from Grenada yesterday. The withdrawal of combat troops is expected to be complete by Christmas. Some 6,000 troops took part in the U.S. intervention in Grenada last month; 3,100 soldiers remain on the island, 1,900 of them are support personnel.

The withdrawal does not mean hostilities have ceased. Patrols yesterday searched an area in the center of the island for two men who fired on five Army equipment technicians while they were walking through a forest on Monday. No one was injured, and the two armed men got away.

U.S. authorities have said in recent days that there are between 12 and 20 Cuban and Grenadian holdouts still hiding. Meanwhile, classes at the two Grenada campuses of the St George's University School of Medicine are scheduled to resume in January.

U.S. grants, totalling more than $300,000, will be used to repair roads in Grenada. Many of those roads were damaged during the recent military conflict there. The Ministry of Construction will have the chief responsibility for resurfacing and repairing nearly 100 km of roadways on both Grenada and Carriacou Islands. The U.S. Army is providing staff and transportation to support the project, which will employ about 300 people.

JAMAICA

SEAGA ANNOUNCES DEVALUATION OF JAMAICA DOLLAR

FL240259 Bridgetown CANA in English 0235 GMT 24 Nov 83

[By Paget Defreitas]

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Nov 23, CANA -- The Jamaica dollar was tonight devalued by 43 per cent under a new 15-month credit arrangement with the International Monetary Fund. The devaluation, announced in Parliament tonight by Prime Minister Edward Seaga, follows the IMF's rejection of government's assertion that it had passed performance criteria laid down for September by the fund under a 650-million U.S. dollar facility signed in 1981.

Seaga, who is minister of finance, said the devaluation meant a unification of the island's dual exchange system under which the Jamaica dollar was tied to the U. S. dollar at a rate of 1.78 Jamaica dollars for one U.S. dollar. One U. S. dollar will now be worth 3.15 J dollars, Seaga said, though he said commercial banks will be able to set daily rates with an adjustment factor of up to 15 Jamaican cents either way.

Jamaica since January had been operating the dual exchange system, with commercial banks operating the so-called parallel market, which accounts for the bulk of transactions. The official rate was used for basic imports, government payments and debt service, food for the tourist sector, and a few other transactions.

Since August, the U. S. dollar on the parallel market had been fetching 2.96 J dollars after the government had forced commercial banks to cut back on currency prices during a scramble on the market for scarce foreign exchange.

Seaga told Parliament that the Extended Fund Facility (EFF) which was to end in March, had 80 million U. S dollars of credit remaining.

Jamaica first ran into problems with that facility in March, when balance of payments requirements were not met and the IMF demanded an austerity package in exchange for a waiver so that the programme could continue. The measures included the cutting of the fiscal budget by 147 million J dollars and the slashing of the import budget by 150 million U. S. dollars. In September, Seaga announced that tests for the previous quarter had been passed, but the IMF rejected the basis of the computation.

The prime minister said that the new IMF agreement would have negative impact on the economy "in a limited number of cases" only. "...In the main (it will) carry very strong positive consequences for the future development of the economy," he declared.

The prime minister said that there will be increases in electricity rates, petroleum products, transport costs, and the costs of servicing the government's external debts -- the latter formerly done at the official rate of exchange.

Water rates would have also been affected, but because these were increased only this month the government would provide budgetary support. Basic food items, which were also imported at the official exchange rate, will have increased prices to consumers completely offset by government subsidies for the next 15 months, but thereafter the government's cushion will be phased out over a two-year period.

The prime minister expected that the higher government debt servicing costs because of the devaluation will be "more than offset by the conversion of the foreign exchange borrowed by the government which will yield more than the required amount of Jamaican dollars needed for the additional Jamaican dollar payments." Jamaica's debt servicing cost for this fiscal year has been estimated by economists here to be over 530 million U.S. dollars. The parallel market had during the past 10 months already "absorbed the negative impact of the price increases on other items imported, the prime minister said.

On the positive side, the prime minister said that the devaluation will mean a substantial windfall profit for the hotel sector of 200 million Jamaica dollars, which will be shared with the government through a special tax. In mining, the bauxite alumina companies operating here will benefit from the fact that they will be required to bring in less foreign exchange to meet local costs. The issue of foreign exchange in the industry was being dealt with in production levy negotiations now taking place, Seaga said. Sugar will in the next crop earn an additional 53 million dollars -- the amount required for a comprehensive rehabilitation programme, and there will also be net incremental earnings from coffee, cocoa, bananas, and other export crops.

Seaga announced that the new IMF programme would mean the dismantling of all licences for imports "except for a range of non-essential and low-priority goods and items on the restricted list." Exporters will now receive all their proceeds at the new rates (previously manufacturers received 50 per cent at the official rate and 50 percent at parallel market), and commercial banks will be allowed to accept fixed term foreign currency deposits from residents and foreigners. These deposits will be used for transactions relating to imports and service payments. Seaga said the new measures could only have a positive impact on the manufacturing sector, adding: "The competitiveness of the Jamaica market place vis-a-vis Caricom (Caricom Community) will be significantly enhanced."

MANLEY CONTINUES TO COMMENT ON, LAUD CUBANS

FL242213 Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 18 Nov 83 p 2

[Text] People's National Party [PNP] President Mr Michael Manley, has reaffirmed that should the PNP be returned to power, it would resume diplomatic relations with Cuba. He said however, that if the Cubans were found interfering in Jamaica's internal affairs, they would be asked to leave. He said that the expulsion of Cuba from Jamaica was a "disgrace" because Cuba never did "us nothing." The PNP President, who was addressing a mass rally at Half Way Tree Square in Kingston, last week Thursday night, said that Cuba would offer five schools with 500 expert workers to the recipient country.

"When the Cubans were here, who did they trouble? Anywhere I went to in St Catherine and Clarendon, the people say the Cubans were nice people...nobody was able to say they came here and spread communism because if they had done so we would have heard about it. They build the schools and gone." Mr Manley said there was nothing else for the Cuban workers to come for since the schools had been built already.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

TALKS OPEN WITH CUBA ON TRADE EXPANSION

FL232319 Bridgetown CANA in English 2209 GMT 23 Nov 83

[By Rudi Williams]

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Nov 23, CANA -- Trinidad and Tobago and Cuba today opened talks on trade, with this oil-rich twin-island state urging Havana to purchase more of its products. Head of Trinidad and Tobago's delegation, Industry and Commerce Minister Desmond Cartey, told the Cuban team: "We wish to draw to your attention the very favourable balance of trade which your country enjoys in our pattern of trade, and we hope that some effort will be made to redress the imbalance." Neither side gave figures, but leader of the Cuban delegation, Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrisas Ruiz, said there was not a substantial trade flow between the two states. He blamed this on factors including a limitation of transport and communications and a lack of knowledge about conditions in the two markets. The Cuban minister said he hoped the three days of talks here would lead to sustained development ties between the two states.

Cartey said Trinidad and Tobago was interested in exporting light manufacturers and energy-based products and at a later date methanol and urea to Havana. It was also interested in importing raw sugar and dairy cattle, he said. "Trinidad and Tobago's interest would lie in the export of light manufacturers and energy-based products, for example steel, fertilisers, and in the very near future, methanol and ureau," Cartey said. "We would have an interest in the importation of raw sugar from Cuba and in the possibility of the export of our locally bred water buffalo in exchange for your dairy cattle." He added: "Trinidad and Tobago would also be interested in the exchange of trade-related information as well as the establishment or the strengthening of sea and air links between our two countries as a means of trade."

The Cuban delegation comprises Ruiz; Ivan Cesar Martinez, Cuba's resident ambassador to Trinidad and Tobago and other Caribbean countries; Roberto Rivas Lopez, director of the Latin American Division of the Economic Collaboration State Committee; Ms Marilu Bhamel Ramirez, specialist in the Commercial Marketing Policy Division in the Ministry of Foreign Trade; Manuel Sanchez Manzano, commercial attache; and Ms Eloisa Hernandez Janiero, interpreter.

The Trinidad and Tobago delegation includes acting minister of state enterprises, Senator Carlton Alert; permament secretaries in the Ministries of Energy and Mines, External Affairs, and Finance; and Arthur Loc Jac, president of the Private Sector Group, the Trinidad and Tobago Manufacturers Association (TTMA). The talks opened at the Trinidad Hilton Hotel after 25 demonstrating housewives handed in to the prime minister's office a petition, protesting against the Cubans' visit, claiming Cuba's main purpose is "progressive and tactful agitation, unrest, and subversion." According to the Cuban foreign trade minister, who spoke through an interpreter: "It is our intention that this visit will create actually the definite basis for a sustained development of our economic and commercial relations for which the state and the Cuban Government will make all necessary efforts." He also expressed hope for "the strengthening of relations between our peoples and governments." The Cuban foreign trade minister said that bilateral exchanges between Cuba and Trinidad and Tobago have not as yet reached the economic and commercial levels they were capable of.

He said Cuba viewed the talks here as being of "great importance," not only from the point of view of "the value our future exchanges might reach, "but also because of what could emerge from the personal contacts made.